HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 313
By Bunch

A RESOLUTION To honor and congratulate Howard Langford, on his selection as Cleveland City Schools' 2002 Tennessee Teacher of the Year nominee.

WHEREAS, It is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Howard Langford is one such estimable educator, who has distinguished himself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Langford has recently been selected a 2002 Tennessee Teacher of the Year nominee by Cleveland City Schools, an honor most befitting his outstanding tenure as a teacher as it recognizes the positive influence he has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, A 1986 graduate of Cleveland High School, Mr. Langford earned a wrestling scholarship from the University of Tennessee in Chattanooga; while in college, he was Southern Conference Champion in his sport and earned distinction as an All-American, and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education with an emphasis in Earth and Space Sciences; and

WHEREAS, A Diversified Technology teacher, Mr. Langford has served his prep alma mater with acumen for six exemplary years; and

WHEREAS, During his second year of teaching, the Cleveland faculty selected him to participate in the Facilitative Leadership Development Program, and he has utilized that training to facilitate meetings dealing with the evaluation of teacher visits to industries and advisory committees promoting technology education and to provide technology training for faculty and staff on topics ranging from e-mail usage to the integration of technology into classroom instruction; and

WHEREAS, Howard Langford is a firm believer in the need to make instruction relevant to industrial needs, and he was the first participant in the Teacher Academy as he worked at Maytag in their engineering department during his summer break, providing him with an invaluable opportunity to stay abreast of current developments in technology; and

WHEREAS, A visionary in the field of technology education, he serves as Co-Chair of the Science and Technology cluster of Education Edge, a group that seeks to bridge the gap between business/industry and education; and

WHEREAS, Recently, he and fellow teacher Jeanette Schlaeger won the Freedom Foundation of Valley Forge Award for the "World War II Remembered" project, a student-produced documentary of local veterans which culminated in a book and six videos; and

WHEREAS, A devout and active Christian, Mr. Langford is a valued member of the Shiloh Baptist Church, where he sings in the male chorus and benevolently volunteers his time and efforts to perform maintenance and yard work to assist the elderly and those with special needs; and

WHEREAS, Howard Langford is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate his students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Langford truly serves as an inspiration to his colleagues and students alike, and his friendship and counsel is highly valued by those who are fortunate to know him; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Langford truly epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and congratulate Howard Langford on being chosen as Cleveland City Schools' nominee for 2002 Tennessee Teacher of the Year, commend his exceptional service to the youth of this State, salute his professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.